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REPORT

ON THE STATE OF THE

PUBLIC HEALTH

IN THE

URBAN DISTRICT OF BUSHEY

URBAN DISTRICT OF CHORLEYWOOD

URBAN DISTRICT OF RICKMANSWORTH

RURAL DISTRICT OF WATFORD

IN THE COUNTY OF

HERTFORD



WILLIAM HARVEY, M.D., B.Ch., D.P.H.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1958

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REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1958.

To the Chairman and Members of:

*the Urban District Council of Bushey,
the Urban District Council of Chorleywood,
the Urban District Council of Rickmansworth,
and
the Rural District Council of Watford.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the state of the Public Health, and the Reports by the Inspectors on their work, in the Districts, during the year 1958.

The Registrar General's estimates of the mid-year populations of the Districts, which form the basis for most of the statistical data in the reports, are analysed in the following table.

CHANGES IN THE POPULATIONS

	Population		Total Increase	Natural Increase	Migration
	1958	1957	cols. a+b	a	b
<i>Bushey</i>	18,880	18,320	560	143	417
<i>Chorleywood</i>	6,320	6,110	210	56	154
<i>Rickmansworth</i>	27,450	27,250	200	211	—11
<i>Watford Rural</i>	55,490	54,230	1,260	390	870
	108,140	105,910	2,230	800	1,430

Note—

1. Natural Increase, or, excess of births over deaths.
2. The figures in the last column may include adjustments in the estimates of the previous year.

The population on the area of the four Districts increased during 1958 by 2,230, compared with 2,260 in the previous year ; the movement of people into the Districts, and the excess of births over deaths, accounted for sixty-four, and thirty-six, per cent. respectively, of the increase.

THE BIRTH RATE

Whilst the birth rates in Bushey and Watford Rural were slightly lower, those for Chorleywood and Rickmansworth were much higher, than in the previous year. The rate of 16.3 for Chorleywood was the highest recorded since 1926; this was accompanied by a 45 per cent higher rate for girls than boys, whereas, in the other Districts, male births were slightly in the majority. The live birth rate per 1,000 of the population of England and Wales was 16.4; which was 0.3 higher than for 1957, and the highest since 1949.

In the following table the numbers of live, and still, births, corrected for inward and outward transfers, are given for each District.

	Live Births		Totals	Still Births	
	M	F		M	F
<i>Bushey</i>	154	151	305	2	1
<i>Chorleywood</i>	42	61	103	2	1
<i>Rickmansworth</i>	236	211	447	4	2
<i>Watford Rural</i>	450	410	860	5	5
	882	833	1,715	13	9

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE

The rates of infantile mortality are now at such a low level that any further reductions must be small, compared with those of the past. The rates given later in the reports compare favourably with the rate of 22.5 deaths of infants under the age of 1 year per 1,000 live births in the whole country, which was the lowest ever recorded. Sixty per cent of the 35 deaths in the Districts last year occurred during the first four weeks of life.

THE DEATH RATE

The causes of death are given in the separate reports under the headings of the Abbreviated List of the International Statistical Classification, 1948. The death-rates for all ages and all causes, but excluding still births, were:—Bushey, 8.6; Chorleywood, 7.4; Rickmansworth, 8.6; and Watford Rural, 8.5. Owing to the age constitution of the four populations being favourable to slightly lower death rates, the Comparability factors given should be applied to their respective rates so that they may be more truly compared with the rate for the whole country or with those for other districts similarly corrected. When this is done, the rates are increased

to :—Bushey, 9.5 ; Chorleywood, 7.8 ; Rickmansworth, 10.4 ; and Watford Rural, 9.9. These rates, as in other years, are appreciably below the rate of 11.7 per 1,000 of the population in England and Wales.

The number of deaths from Cancer of the Lung continues to rise, and noticeably so in the case of women, amongst whom there was an increase of 150 per cent. last year. The actual numbers of deaths in each of the last three years, with their division into male and female in brackets, were :—32 (30—2), 34 (30—4), and 42 (32—10) respectively ; in the last case out of the total of 915 (456—459) deaths in 1958.

THE COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

The year was a very satisfactory one as regards the incidence of the notifiable infectious diseases.

Measles, the commonest of the infections of childhood, was much less prevalent than in the previous year, when there were 1,905 cases, compared with 729 last year.

There were 52 cases of Scarlet Fever, three fewer than in 1957. As this disease is readily susceptible to antibiotic treatment, it no longer presents the problems, as regards treatment, complications or the duration of infectivity, that it formerly did.

Whooping Cough was almost absent from the area—there were only 39 cases compared with 501 in 1957. Whilst it would be too much to expect that this favourable state will be maintained, there is reason to hope that the incidence and severity of the disease in young children will be lessened by the increasing use of the Whooping Cough vaccines.

There was only one case of Acute Poliomyelitis in all the Districts, compared with nineteen in the previous year. Immunization is being practised at a high rate throughout the country, and it is expected that it will play an important part in limiting the disease, especially in its severer forms. Vaccination is available to anyone born in, or after the year 1933 ; and it can be readily obtained from a person's own Doctor, at any convenient clinic, or through the routine arrangements at the schools.

Diphtheria, formerly a dreaded disease, has now been absent from the Area for ten years ; its return is unlikely whilst parents have their children immunized.

There were some mild cases of Dysentery of the Sonne type amongst school children in the Borehamwood part of the area during the first quarter of the year. The spread of the infection was probably by contact through the medium of door handles and lavatory fittings. Apart from the personal rule of always washing the hands after using the toilet, special attention should be given to the cleansing of door handles and other lavatory fittings, ending with the use of a cloth damped with a disinfectant.

POLLUTION OF THE AIR

Although most of our environment is maintained in a reasonably satisfactory state, this is not so in the case of the air of our towns, which is becoming recognised as an increasing menace to health through its being a contributory cause of Bronchitis, Asthma, and Cancer of the Lung. Although the amount of smoke from industrial and domestic sources is about equal, more progress seems to have been made in dealing with the former. The fumes and smoke from internal combustion engines cause serious pollution near ground level. The fuel injection systems of diesel engines should be kept in proper adjustment, and, cold starting devices should not be used to gain extra power, at the expense of emitting excessive smoke, in order to save the trouble of changing gear.

GENERAL

Considerable attention has been given to ensure that the food supply is pure and wholesome, and that it is handled in a hygienic manner.

The measures taken to improve the housing conditions in the Districts are given in detail in each report.

The work of the rodent, and other pest, control services, which is described later, is of considerable economic value, apart from its importance in preventing the spread of infection.

In conclusion, I have much pleasure in recording that the work of the Public Health Department has been carried out with efficiency and consideration by the Inspectors and the Staffs.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM HARVEY.

Eighty-fifth Annual Report.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

of the Councils of the Urban Districts of Bushey, Chorleywood,
Rickmansworth, and, the Rural District of Watford.

Medical Officer of Health

WILLIAM HARVEY, M.D., B.Ch., D.P.H.

BUSHEY

Senior Public Health Inspector—A. C. F. GISBORNE, *Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board. Cert. Inspection of Meats and other Foods. Civil Defence Instructors' Cert. Falfield, 1952.*

Public Health Inspector—D. JONES. *Cert. S.I.J.B. Resigned 30th April, 1958. R. W. BYWATERS. Cert. P.H.I.J.B. Appointed 6th October, 1958.*

Trainee Assistant—A. G. BUTTERFIELD. *Nat. Building Cert.*

CHORLEYWOOD

Senior Public Health Inspector (and Surveyor)—W. E. HANDS. *Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board. Cert. Inspection of Meat and other Foods.*

Public Health Inspector (and Assistant Surveyor)—F. E. JACKSON. *Cert. S.I.J.B., Cert. Inspection of Meat and other Foods.*

RICKMANSWORTH

Senior Public Health Inspector—C. R. ALEXANDER. *Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Joint Board. Cert. Inspection of Meat and other Foods. Civil Defence Instructors Cert. Falfield 1951.*

Deputy Senior Public Health Inspector — R. STOCKLEY. *Cert. S.J.I.B. Cert. Inspection of Meat and other Foods.*

Public Health Inspector—W. HUMBER. *Cert. S.I.J.B. Cert. Inspection of Meat and other Foods.*

WATFORD RURAL

Chief Public Health Inspector—S. N. GRIGG. *Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Joint Board. Cert. Inspector of Meat and other Foods. A.R.P.S. Falfield, 1941.*

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector—F. REEVE. *Cert. S.I.J.B.*

Public Health Inspector—F. VALENTINE. *Cert. S.I.J.B. Cert. Inspection of Meat and other foods.*

BUSHEY

URBAN DISTRICT



General.

Area of District (land and inland water), 3,866 acres.
 Highest Point—London Road at Southern boundary, 506.7ft.
 Lowest Point—Near River Colne, 179.2ft.

Dwellings and Rateable Value.

31st March, 1959.

<i>Number of Separate Dwellings</i>	<i>Rateable Value</i>	<i>Product (est.) of Penny Rate</i>
6,099	£333,983	£1,345

Population.

(Registrar General's estimates at mid-year) :

1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1951	1945	1939
18,880	18,320	18,260	17,940	17,710	^{census} 14,833	12,880	12,930

Birth Rate

Live births per 1,000 of population. Comparability Factor, 0.93

1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1951	1945	1939
16.1	16.6	14.8	13.7	12.5	15.1	14.4	13.0

Classification of Births:

					Live Births		Still Births	
					M	F	M	F
Total	...	...	...	...	154	151	2	1
<i>Legitimate</i>	...	...	...	...	147	144	1	1
<i>Illegitimate</i>	...	...	...	...	7	7	1	—

Infantile Mortality Rate.

(Number of deaths under age of 1 year per 1,000 live births) :

1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1951	1945	1939
19.7	9.8	3.7	20.3	36	37	43	48

Classification of Infant Deaths:

				Under Age of 4 weeks		Under Age of 1 year	
				M	F	M	F
Total	...	...	...	4	1	4	2
Legitimate	...	...	...	4	1	4	2
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—	—

Still Birth Rate.

Still births per 1,000 total (live and still) births :

1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1951	1939
10.0	16.1	7.3	31.5	22.0	0	16.2	35.7

Tuberculosis Notifications.

The cases of Tuberculosis which were notified for the first time during the year are given in the following table according to localization of disease, sex, and age group.

	Respiratory		Meninges, Cent. Nervous System		Other Forms	
	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5 years	1	1	—	—	—	—
5—14 years	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—24 ,,	—	3	—	—	—	—
25—44 ,,	—	2	—	—	—	—
45—64 ,,	2	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	1	1	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total (all ages)	4	7	—	—	—	—

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1958

INCIDENCE according to AGE and SEX

AGE GROUPS	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute poliomyelitis				Measles (Exc. Rubella)		Diphtheria	
	M	F	M	F	Paralytic		Non-paralytic		M	F	M	F
					M	F	M	F				
0— ...									2	2		
1— ...									20	12		
3— ...		3							18	24		
5— ...	4	6	2						66	55		
10— ...	1	3							4	1		
15— ...												
25 and over	1											
TOTALS	6	12	2	—	—	—	—	—	110	94	—	—

AGE GROUPS	Ac. Pneumonia		Dysentery		Smallpox		Acute encephalitis				Enteric or Typhoid Fever	
							Infective		Post-infectious			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— ...												
5— ...												
15— ...		1										
45— ...	2	3										
65 and over	2	3										
TOTALS	4	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

AGE GROUPS	Paratyphoid Fevers		Erysipelas		Meningococcal infection		Food Poisoning		Other Notifiable Diseases		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		M	F
0— ...									Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	57
5— ...									Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	7	6
15— ...									Cholera ...	—	—
45— ...									Malaria ...	—	—
65 and over									Plague ...	—	—
									Relapsing Fever	—	—
TOTALS	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Typhus Fever...	—	—

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1958

MONTH OF OCCURRENCE

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Scarlet Fever	2	1	1	1	.	2	3	1	.	1	5	1
Whooping Cough	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
paralytic Ac. poliomyelitis ; non-paralytic												
Measles	4	71	64	30	19	6	1	.	1	1	.	7
Diphtheria												
Ac. pneumonia	2	6	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Dysentery												
Smallpox												
infective Ac. encephalitis ; post-infectious												
Typhoid Fever												
Paratyphoid fevers												
Erysipelas												
Meningococcal infn.												
Food poisoning												
Puerperal pyrexia	9	4	5	4	7	6	3	6	4	2	6	1
Ophthalmia neonat.	.	1	3	1	6	2	.	.	.	.	.	.
†												
†Cholera	Malaria	Plague	Relapsing F.	Typhus F.								

THE CAUSES OF DEATH

DEATH-RATE

1958

(Deaths per 1,000 of population)

					Males	Females	1958	...	...	8.6
All Causes					89	73	1957	...	...	7.8
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	1	1	1956	...	...	8.7
2	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	—	—	1955	...	...	8.0
3	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	—	—	1954	...	...	8.7
4	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—	1953	...	...	8.9
5	Whooping cough	...	...	...	—	—	1952	...	...	9.3
6	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	—	—	1951	...	...	9.9
7	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—	1950	...	...	9.9
8	Measles	...	...	...	—	—	1948	...	...	8.1
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	—	1	1946	...	...	9.1
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	1	—	1945	...	...	10.6
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	7	—	1944	...	...	10.2
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	—	3	1943	...	...	11.5
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	—	1	1942	...	...	9.8
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	7	9	1941	...	...	10.6
15	Leukæmia, aleukæmia	...	...	...	—	3	1940	...	...	9.7
16	Diabetes	...	...	...	—	2	1939	...	...	7.9
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	7	9	1938	...	...	9.1
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	19	7	1937	...	...	9.2
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	—	1	1936	...	...	8.2
20	Other heart disease	...	...	...	9	12				
21	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	5	3				
22	Influenza	...	...	...	—	—	
23	Pneumonia	...	...	...	8	4				
24	Bronchitis	...	...	...	7	3	England and Wales			
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	—	1	1958	...	...	11.7
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	3	3	1957	...	...	11.5
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	—	1	1956	...	...	11.7
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	—	—	1955	...	...	11.7
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	2	—	1954	...	...	11.3
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	—	—	1953	...	...	11.4
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	—	—	1952	...	...	11.3
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	9	5	1951	...	...	12.5
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	2	—	1950	...	...	11.6
34	All other accidents	...	...	...	2	2	1948	...	...	10.8
35	Suicide	...	...	...	—	2	1946	...	...	11.5
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	—	—	1945	...	...	11.4

HOUSING

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses.

<i>a</i> , Total number of houses inspected (Public Health or Housing Acts)	181
<i>b</i> , Number of inspections made for the purpose	207

2. Action Taken.

Number of :—

<i>a</i> , Clearance Areas declared	2
<i>b</i> , Unfit houses included in <i>a</i> , above	12
<i>c</i> , Individual houses demolished	3
<i>d</i> , Individual houses closed	5
<i>e</i> , Parts of buildings closed	Nil
<i>f</i> , Dwellings rendered fit after :—	
<i>i</i> , Informal action	61
<i>ii</i> , Formal action	8

3. Overcrowding.

Number of :—

<i>a</i> , Cases brought forward from previous year	1
<i>b</i> , Premises found to be overcrowded during the year	—
<i>c</i> , Cases of overcrowding abated	2

4. Certificates of Disrepair.

Number of :—

<i>a</i> , Applications for Certificates—Form I	14
<i>b</i> , Undertakings by landlord—Form K	6
<i>c</i> , Certificates issued—Form L	9

5. Improvement Grants.

Number of :—

<i>a</i> , Applications made	6
<i>b</i> , „ refused	1
<i>c</i> , Grants made	5

6. Number of Houses and Flats Erected during the Year.

<i>a</i> , By the Local Authority	76
<i>b</i> , By other Authorities and Organizations	124
<i>c</i> , By private persons	121

SUMMARY OF HOUSING DEFECTS.

Housing defects remedied during the year are recorded below in classified form. Work done in connection with the extermination of rats, mice, etc. is not recorded here, but under that part of the report dealing with the Prevention of Damage by Pests.

1. Site.

a, Drainage of ground unsatisfactory : 0. *b*, Outbuildings, inadequate or in bad repair : 0. *c*, Approach to back of house unsatisfactory : 2.
d, Fencing defective : 1. *e*, Storage of refuse unsatisfactory : 1.
f, Animals improperly kept : 1.

2. Prevention of Dampness.

a, Roof, chimney ; defective : 18. *b*, Gutters, downpipes ; defective : 25.
c, Walls, doors, windows ; defective : 28. *d*, Damp-proof course defective : 2. *e*, Sub-floor ventilation defective : 2. *f*, Solid floor defective : 3. *g*, Soil against walls above damp-proof course : 2.
(See also *a*).

3. Lighting, Ventilation.

a, Obstruction to light and air : 0. *b*, Window area or opening below standard : 0. *c*, Ventilation otherwise defective : 0. *d*, Artificial lighting defective : 0. (See also 8, *f*).

4. Stability and External Repair not included under Sections 2 and 3, above : 3.

5. Water Supply.

a, Water supply not satisfactory : 5. *b*, Main supply disconnected : 0.

6. Food : Storage, Preparation and Cooking.

a, Storage of food unsatisfactory : 0. *b*, Cooking arrangements unsatisfactory : 0. *c*, Sink unsatisfactory : 1.

7. Washing arrangements : Disposal of Waste Water.

a, Bath defective : 0. *b*, No bath : 0. *c*, Arrangements for water heating unsatisfactory : 0. *d*, Disposal of waste water unsatisfactory : 3.

8. Closet accommodation : Soil Drainage.

a, Pail closet defective : 0. *b*, Water closet defective : 6. *c*, Drainage defective : 14. *d*, Disposal of sewage unsatisfactory : 1. *e*, Approach to outside closet not protected : 0. *f*, Lighting, ventilation ; inadequate : 0.

9. Space-Heating.

a, Firegrate, flue ; defective : 5.

10. Repair, Decoration, Cleanliness : internal.

a, Internal structures defective : 35. *b*, Decoration in bad state : 1. *c*, Lack of cleanliness : 1. *d*, Infestation with bugs, etc. : 1.

Clearance Areas.

Good progress was maintained during the year in the declaration of areas, although no dwellings were demolished. The following list shows the position regarding clearance areas that have already been decided upon :—

Clearance Area No. 1. 45-71 Sparrows Herne—13 dwellings.

Eighteen flats for old-age pensioners were erected on this site by the Council, and occupied during the year.

Clearance Area No. 2. 43-53 Herkomer Road—6 dwellings.

This area was purchased by the Council and it is intended to construct flats for old-age pensioners on the site. At the end of the year only one family remained to be rehoused.

Clearance Area No. 3. 1-13 Crook Log, London Road—13 dwellings.

All families have now been rehoused by the Council.

Clearance Area No. 4. 1-8 Salem Cottages and Salem Bungalow, Sparrows Herne—9 dwellings.

All families have now been rehoused by the Council.

Clearance Area No. 5. 138-144 Merry Hill Road—4 dwellings.

This Clearance Order was confirmed by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, and one family has so far been rehoused.

Clearance Area No. 6. 124-138 School Lane—8 dwellings.

Confirmation of the Clearance Order by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government is pending.

At the end of the year consideration was given to the making of further areas for confirmation during 1959.

Individual Unfit Houses.

Undertakings to close the premises for human habitation were accepted in respect of the following properties :—

2, 3, and 4, Cow Lane, High Street.

The Annexe, Hendon and Aldenham Kennels, North Western Avenue.
141, Herkomer Road.

The Cabin, Hillside, Heathbourne Road, and 1, and 2, Bushey Grange Farm Cottages, Little Bushey Lane, were demolished as the result of informal action, while 1, and 3, Barbary Cottages, California Lane, were reconditioned.

There is little doubt that in future more premises will be dealt with as individual unfit houses, rather than being included in clearance areas.

Certificates of Disrepair.

During the year there was a reduction in the number of certificates asked for, while two certificates were cancelled and three certificates (Form P.) were issued, certifying that the defects specified in the landlord's undertakings had been remedied.

Improvement Grants.

The number of Improvement Grants made was the same as that for 1957. These Grants were made in respect of the provision of bathrooms, internal sanitation, and, hot and cold water. One applicant, however, decided not to take up the Grant, as he proposed to submit an amended scheme. No grants have been applied for in connection with rented property.

Moveable Dwellings.

Generally the number of caravans in the district occupied by persons, other than the itinerant gypsy type dealers, has remained the same. A vigilant watch is maintained, with a view to preventing any new site being developed without proper consent. It is hoped that it will be possible to move some of the caravans on unlicensed and unsatisfactory sites to the Council's site, as vacancies occur, but unless new legislation is forthcoming, success in this venture will only be possible if the site owners are prepared to co-operate by not re-letting the vacated site. Efforts are also being made to get some of the unsatisfactory sites improved, as it is realised that it will be a long time before the problem will be resolved.

At the end of the year the position regarding residential caravans (excluding gypsy dealer types) in the district was as follows :—

Number of licensed sites—3. (50 vans)

Individual caravans licensed—13. (12 of these until 1960)

Estimated number on unlicensed sites—100

No special problems have arisen regarding the operation of the Council's Caravan site. There were ten vacancies during the year, for which there were 127 persons on the Waiting List. At the present time, the Council is not prepared to consider an application unless the person is living or working in the district, and has done so for the past 2 years. There were 15 such persons on the Waiting List. Of the 10 vacancies, 4 were let to caravan occupiers whose vans were stationed on unsatisfactory sites in Bushey.

Unfortunately the position regarding the gypsy dealer has worsened. Frequently these people have stationed their vans on the greensward of the highways, and on odd pieces of open land, causing the Council considerable

trouble in effecting their removal. Nuisances had been created and 33 Abatement Notices were served upon this type of van occupier. Twelve Nuisance Orders were made and penalties ranging from 20/- to 60/- were imposed for non-compliance with certain of the Orders. This class of caravan dweller is most undesirable, as many of them are dealers in rags and other waste materials who invariably leave the sites which they occupy in a disgraceful condition. The result of the action taken by the Council often means that the gypsies only move from one site to another within the district, with the result that fresh legal proceedings become necessary with further delay in effecting their removal. Considerable time is devoted in an endeavour to keep the situation under control. It is often not appreciated that the Council has no effective power to remove this type of caravan dweller within a short time.

Inspection of Caravan Sites—Council site 12.
Other residential sites—102. Gypsy sites—126.

THE FOOD SUPPLY

Food Condemned.

The following quantities of food were condemned during the year :—
Meat, carcase 239lbs. ; Meat, canned 37lbs. ; Offal 84lbs. ; Flour 432lbs.

All this unsound food was disposed of by burying at the Council's refuse tip.

Eight compaints were received during the year concerning food which had been purchased. These concerned :—

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Sausages—Mould formation. | Bottle of Milk—Foreign matter. |
| Bread roll—Foreign matter. | Sweets—Rancid. |
| Swiss roll—Rancid. | Water cress—Snail infested. |

No legal proceedings were taken but in five cases the Council decided to send warning letters to the vendors.

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in whole or in part.

No regular slaughtering takes place within the district. No notice of any casual slaughtering has been received during the past year.

Milk Supply.

There are three dairies in the district and 12 distributors of milk.

Twenty-seven Special Designation licences were granted during the year as follows :—

	Dealers	Supplementary★
Sterilised	4	4
Pasteurised	3	6
Tuberculin Tested ...	3	7

Ten samples of designated milk were taken and submitted for examination. All passed the necessary tests.

★ To Dealers whose premises are not in the District.

Ice Cream.

Two more premises were registered, making a total of 31 premises on the register. No ice cream is manufactured in the district, and it is pleasing to report again that all 20 samples taken from the various retailers were placed in Grade 1. This is the third year in succession that all samples have been so graded.

FOOD PREMISES

Table showing the types and numbers of food premises in the District, with the inspections made during the year.

Type of Business	Number in District	Number of Inspections made
REGISTERED PREMISES		
Cooked meats and preserved food ...	9	2
Ice Cream retailers	31	15
Dairies	3	6
OTHER FOOD PREMISES		
Bakehouses	3	2
Butchers	9	16
Cafes and Restaurants	11	10
Canteens, factory	13	1
„ school	17	3
Fish and Chip Shops	2	—
Fishmongers	3	1
Greengrocers	13	6
Grocers, retail	26	29
„ wholesale	2	2
Hospitals and Nursing Homes ...	6	0
Hotels and Guest Houses	2	0
Public Houses	20	3
Licensed Clubs	4	0
Mobile Food Premises	4	12
Miscellaneous Premises (sweets, etc.)	7	8
Sweet Manufacturer	1	1

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

114 routine inspections were made of food premises in the district. Due to staff changes, which resulted in the district being without an additional Inspector for 5 months, it was only possible to carry out approximately half the number of inspections made during 1957.

WATER SUPPLY

The public water supply is chlorinated and adequate for the district. Three samples were taken for bacteriological examination, and these were reported as fit for drinking purposes.

Rehousing from a number of premises, where the water supply was from a common standpipe in the gardens, took place during the year, and it is hoped that these premises will be demolished in 1959.

Swimming Pool.

Twenty inspections were made of the Council's Swimming Pool and 19 water samples were submitted for bacteriological examination. Two of these samples were not quite up to the usual standard, but no coliform bacilli were isolated.

Work was commenced on the installation of the new filtration and chlorination plant, which it is hoped will be in operation for the 1959 season.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

DISINFECTION :	Number of houses disinfected	6
DISINFESTATION :	Number of houses treated (Exc. rats and mice)	...	...	11

Only one house was found to be infested with bed bugs; the remaining cases being wasps' nests and woodworms.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS

The work done during the year under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, is recorded in the following section.

	Local Authority Depots, etc.	Dwelling Houses	Agri-cultural	All other, incl. Business & Industry	Total
1. Total No. of properties in L.A.s' district	20	5,261	24	619	5,924
2. No. of properties inspected by L.A. as a result of a, notification, b, otherwise.	a, 1 b, 2	86 479	— 4	18 7	105 492
3. No. of properties (under 2) found to be infested by Rats a, Major b, Minor, Infest.	a, — b, 3	— 102	— 2	1 10	1 117
4. No. of properties (under 2) found to be infested by Mice a, Major b, Minor, Infest.	a, — b, —	— —	— —	— 7	— 7
5. No. of infested properties (under 3 & 4) treated by the L.A. ...	3	102	2	18	125
6. No. of notices served under Section 4 for : a, Treatment b, Structural Works	a, — b, —	— —	— —	— —	— —

7. Number of cases in which default action was taken by L.A. following issue of notice under S. 4 ; 0.
8. Legal Proceedings, 0.
9. Number of " block control " schemes carried out, 0.

Rodent Control in Sewers.

As far as is known, the Council's sewers are free from rats, and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food have agreed with the Council that the next test bait should be carried out in January, 1959.

SOIL DRAINAGE

(Including—Cesspools, Septic Tanks, Filterbeds, etc.)

One house has been connected to the main drainage system during the year, otherwise there has been no change in the number of cesspools or pail closets emptied by the Council. Cesspool emptying is under the control of the Council's Surveyor, and he has kindly submitted the following information for the year 1958 :—

Number of cesspools emptied	...	...	...	...	...	112
Number of emptyings	...	...	...	...	...	1,822
Number of loads removed	...	...	...	...	...	2,760
Number of gallons removed	...	...	...	...	...	2,891,700

In addition to the above cesspools, there are eight others at non-residential premises where private arrangements are made for the emptying.

The following table shows the number of inspections and tests made during the year :—

1. NEW AND ALTERED DRAINAGE SYSTEMS.						
Number of inspections and tests made	...	...	...	...	...	534
2. COUNCIL HOUSES.						
(a) Number of inspections made	...	...	...	...	...	760
(b) Number of obstructions cleared	...	...	...	...	...	11
(c) Number of houses affected under (b) above	...	...	...	...	...	23
3. PRIVATE HOUSES.						
(a) Number of obstructions cleared by Department	...	...	...	...	...	46
(b) Number of houses affected under (a) above	...	...	...	...	...	183

It will be noted that many more inspections and tests have been carried out during the year, and this is partly due to the fact that more attention is now being paid to surface water drainage.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection.

The collection of refuse in the district is carried out by contract. Two low-loading vehicles with metal covers are in regular use, while in addition a third vehicle is used two days a week and at other times when required.

Refuse Disposal.

The filling up of the Tip at Hartspring Lane was completed during the year, and a new Tip commenced at Hilfield Lane. It was necessary to treat a minor infestation of rats on the old Tip, and also to clear up a small infestation of crickets. No infestation from rats or crickets has been reported from the new Tip, which should be satisfactory, providing sufficient earth covering can be maintained.

Various Inspections, with action where necessary :—

Ponds, Ditches and Watercourses	...	...	...	...	3
Offensive Accumulations	...	...	...	...	1
Refuse Tips	...	...	...	...	8

THE KEEPING OF ANIMALS

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

Licensed premises	...	2	Inspections made	...	3
Other Inspections :					
(a) Farms—piggeries	...	0	(b) General	...	7
poultry	...	4			

There were no complaints during the year concerning nuisances from farms or piggeries.

AIR POLLUTION

Total number of observations and inspections	23
--	-----	-----	-----	----

From time to time representations were made to individual occupiers of factories concerning smoke emission, and in all cases the necessary action was taken by the factory occupiers. The nuisance caused by smoke, grit and fumes in the area north-east of the Watford Gas Works was at times serious, and this resulted in the Council deciding to install recording apparatus, particularly regarding the measurement of sulphur oxide compounds in the atmosphere. It is hoped to commence recording in the spring of 1959.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

Premises registered	...	1	Action required...	...	Nil
Inspections made	...	1			

COMPLAINTS, NOTICES, AND OTHER VISITS

During the year 60 complaints were received and the following figures show the number of notices served, and those complied with :—

Notices, Informal, outstanding 1st January, 1958	...	...	...	32
„ „ served during the year	...	...	...	56
„ „ complied with during the year	...	...	...	54
Notices, Statutory, outstanding 1st January, 1955	...	...	...	6
„ „ served during the year	...	...	...	8
„ „ complied with during the year	...	...	...	8
Infectious Diseases Enquiries	...	...	...	16

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

1.—Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	6	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	56	15	2	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	7	9	1	—
TOTAL ...	65	30	4	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecu- tions were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	3	2	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	5	3	—	—	—

Sections 110, 111—Outworkers, 11; Notices, etc., 0.

CHORLEYWOOD

URBAN DISTRICT



General.

Area of District (land and inland water), 2,055 acres.

Highest Point—Near water tower at the Swillet, 410.6ft.

Lowest Point—Junction of Meadow Way and Belfry Lane, 160.3ft.

Dwellings and Rateable Value.

31st March, 1958

<i>Number of Separate Dwellings</i>	<i>Rateable Value</i>	<i>Product (est.) of Penny Rate</i>
2,090	£119,001	£500

Population.

(Registrar General's estimates at mid-year)

1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1951	1945	1939
6,320	6,110	5,820	5,430	4,820	^{census} 4,431	3,967	3,775

Birth Rate.

Live births per 1,000 of population: (Comparability Factor, 0.96)

1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1951	1945	1939
16.3	13.6	15.8	15.1	13.3	12.5	13.1	9.0

Classification of Births:

				Live Births		Still Births	
				M.	F.	M.	F.
Total	...	...	...	42	61	2	1
<i>Legitimate</i>	...	...	...	42	59	2	1
<i>Illegitimate</i>	...	...	...	—	2	—	—

Infantile Mortality Rate.

(Number of deaths under age of 1 year per 1,000 live births) :

1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1951	1945	1939
29.1	0	32.6	24.4	62.5	0	19	29

Classification of Deaths :

				Under Age of 4 weeks		Under Age of 1 year	
				M.	F.	M.	F.
Total	...	...	...	1	—	1	2
Legitimate	...	...	...	1	—	1	2
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—	—

Still Birth Rate.

Still births per 1,000 total (live and still) births :

1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1952	1939
28.3	23.5	10.7	12.2	15.4	60.0	55.5

Tuberculosis Notifications.

The cases of Tuberculosis which were notified for the first time during the year are given in the following table according to localization of disease, sex, and age group.

	Respiratory		Meninges, Cent. Nervous System		Other Forms	
	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5 years	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—14 years	1	2	—	—	—	—
15—24 ,,	—	1	—	—	—	—
25—44 ,,	4	—	—	—	—	—
45—64 ,,	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	1
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total (all ages)	6	3	—	—	—	1

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1958

INCIDENCE according to AGE and SEX

AGE GROUPS	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute poliomyelitis				Measles (Exc. Rubella)		Diphtheria	
					Paralytic		Non-paralytic					
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— ...									1	2		
1— ...									6	4		
3— ...									8	4		
5— ...									15	18		
10— ...									1	1		
15— ...										1		
25 and over				1						1		
TOTAL ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	31	31	—	—

AGE GROUPS	Ac. Pneumonia		Dysentery		Smallpox		Meningococcal Infection		Acute encephalitis			
									Infective		Post-infectious	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— ...												
5— ...												
15— ...												
45— ...												
65 and over												
TOTAL ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

AGE GROUPS	Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Paratyphoid Fevers		Erysipelas		Food Poisoning		Other Notifiable Diseases		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		M	F
0— ...									Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	—
5— ...									Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	—	—
15— ...									Cholera ...	—	—
45— ...									Malaria ...	—	—
65 and over									Plague ...	—	—
									Relapsing Fever	—	—
TOTAL ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Typhus Fever...	—	—

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1958

MONTH OF OCCURRENCE

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Scarlet Fever												
Whooping Cough	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
paralytic												
Ac. poliomyelitis ;												
non-paralytic												
Measles	7	3	1	26	17	4	.	2	.	.	.	2
Diphtheria												
Ac. pneumonia												
Dysentery												
Smallpox												
infective												
Ac. encephalitis ;												
post-infectious												
Typhoid Fever												
Paratyphoid fevers												
Erysipelas												
Meningococcal infn.												
Food poisoning												
Puerperal pyrexia												
Ophthalmia neonat.												
†												
† Cholera												
Malaria												
Plague												
Relapsing F.												
Typhus F.												

THE CAUSES OF DEATH

DEATH-RATE

(Deaths per 1,000 of population)

1958

					Males	Females	1958	...	...	7.4
All Causes					27	20	1957	...	...	9.6
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	—	1	1956	...	...	9.9
2	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	—	—	1955	...	...	9.2
3	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	—	—	1954	...	...	7.7
4	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—	1953	...	...	10.1
5	Whooping cough	...	...	...	—	—	1952	...	...	11.5
6	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	—	—	1951	...	...	8.5
7	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—	1950	...	...	10.0
8	Measles	...	...	...	—	—	1948	...	...	9.7
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	—	—	1946	...	...	12.6
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	1	—	1945	...	...	9.3
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	2	1	1944	...	...	11.2
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	—	1	1943	...	...	13.0
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	—	—	1942	...	...	10.7
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	4	1	1941	...	...	10.3
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	—	—	1940	...	...	9.7
16	Diabetes	...	...	...	—	—	1939	...	...	9.6
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	2	7	1938	...	...	9.9
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	6	1	1937	...	...	10.5
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	1	1	1936	...	...	9.7
20	Other heart disease	...	...	...	1	3	1935	...	...	7.7
21	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	—	—	
22	Influenza	...	...	...	—	—	
23	Pneumonia	...	...	...	1	1				
24	Bronchitis	...	...	...	3	—				
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	—	—	England and Wales			
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	1	—	1958	...	...	11.7
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	1	—	1957	...	...	11.5
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	—	—	1956	...	...	11.7
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	—	—	1955	...	...	11.7
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	—	—	1954	...	...	11.3
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	1	—	1953	...	...	11.4
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	2	1	1952	...	...	11.3
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	1	—	1951	...	...	12.5
34	All other accidents	...	...	...	—	2	1950	...	...	11.6
35	Suicide	...	...	...	—	—	1948	...	...	10.8
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	—	—	1946	...	...	11.5
							1945	...	...	11.4

HOUSING

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses.

<i>a</i> , Total number of houses inspected (Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	72
<i>b</i> , Number of inspections made for the purpose	137

2. Action Taken.

Number of :—

<i>a</i> , Clearance Areas declared	0
<i>b</i> , Unfit houses included in <i>a</i> , above	0
<i>c</i> , Individual houses demolished	0
<i>d</i> , Individual houses closed	0
<i>e</i> , Parts of buildings closed	0
<i>f</i> , Dwellings rendered fit after :—	
<i>i</i> , Informal action	63
<i>ii</i> , Formal action	0

3. Overcrowding.

Number of :—

<i>a</i> , Cases brought forward from previous year	0
<i>b</i> , Premises found to be overcrowded during the year	0
<i>c</i> , Cases of overcrowding abated	0

4. Certificates of Disrepair.

Number of :—

<i>a</i> , Certificates of Disrepair, issued	—
<i>b</i> , Certificates of Disrepair, cancelled	—
<i>c</i> , Certificates of Disrepair, proposed to issue	1

5. Improvement Grants.

Number of :—

<i>a</i> , Applications made	1
<i>b</i> , Grants made	1

6. Number of Houses and Flats Erected During the Year.

<i>a</i> , By the Local Authority	0
<i>b</i> , By other Authorities and Organizations	0
<i>c</i> , By private persons	65

SUMMARY OF HOUSING DEFECTS.

Housing defects remedied during the year are recorded below in classified form. Work done in connection with the extermination of rats, mice, etc. is not recorded here, but under that part of the report dealing with the Prevention of Damage by Pests.

1. Site.

a, Drainage of ground unsatisfactory : 1. *b*, Outbuildings, inadequate or in bad repair : 7. *c*, Approach to back of house unsatisfactory : 4.
d, Fencing defective : 0. *e*, Storage of refuse unsatisfactory : 27.
f, Animals improperly kept : 1.

2. Prevention of Dampness.

a, Roof, chimney ; defective : 14. *b*, Gutters, downpipes ; defective : 9.
c, Walls, doors, windows ; defective : 16. *d*, Damp-proof course ; defective : 0.
e, Sub-floor ventilation ; defective : 1.
f, Solid floor ; defective : 1. *g*, Soil against walls above damp-proof course (see also 1.a) : 7.

3. Lighting, Ventilation.

a, Obstruction to light and air : 0. *b*, Window area or opening below standard : 0. *c*, Ventilation otherwise defective : 0. *d*, Artificial lighting defective : 0 (see also 8. *f*).

4. Stability and External Repair not included under Sections 2 and 3 above : 0.

5. Water Supply.

a, Water supply not satisfactory : 0. *b*, Main supply disconnected : 0.

6. Food : Storage, Preparation and Cooking.

a, Storage of food unsatisfactory : 1. *b*, Cooking arrangements unsatisfactory : 1. *c*, Sink unsatisfactory : 4.

7. Washing arrangements : Disposal of Waste Water.

a, Bath defective : 1. *b*, No bath : 1. *c*, Arrangements for water heating unsatisfactory : 10. *d*, Disposal of waste water unsatisfactory : 8.

8. Closet accommodation : Soil Drainage.

a, Pail closet defective : 0. *b*, Water closet defective : 16. *c*, Drainage defective : 25. *d*, Disposal of sewage unsatisfactory : 0. *e*, Approach to outside closet not protected : 0. *f*, Lighting, ventilation ; inadequate : 0.

9. Space Heating.

a, Firegrate, flue ; defective : 19.

10. Repair, Decoration, Cleanliness : internal.

a, Internal structure defective : 12. *b*, Decoration in bad state : 18. *c*, Lack of cleanliness : 5. *d*, Infestation with bugs, etc. : 0.

THE FOOD SUPPLY

Under the general heading of public health work this is probably one of the most important duties of the Council, and for this purpose routine visits are made to food establishments throughout the District. The public are now taking a growing interest in food hygiene and showing keener discrimination. This is having a good effect on the general standard.

Slaughtering and Meat Inspection.

No animals were slaughtered in the District during the year under review.

Milk Supply.

The following special Designation Licences were issued during the year :—

	Dealers	Supplementary *
Tuberculin Tested ...	2	2
„ „ pasteurised	3	0
Pasteurised	4	2
Sterilized	4	2

Seventeen inspections were made during the year but it was not found necessary to serve any notices. No complaints of dirty milk bottles were received. In the course of the year nine samples of designated milks were submitted to the laboratory for examination and all were found to be satisfactory.

* To Dealers whose premises are outside the District.

Ice Cream.

There are no premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream.

The eight premises registered for the sale of ice cream sell wrapped ice cream only. Three samples taken during the year were satisfactory.

It was not found necessary to serve any notices.

Water Supply.

The water supply of the District is supplied by the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company, and no complaints have been received regarding its quality. Two samples were found to be satisfactory on bacteriological examination.

Mobile Food Vans.

Three mobile food vans continue to trade in the District, and all have the name and address of the owner conspicuously displayed on the vehicle.

Food Condemned.

Fruit 8 tins ; Fruit juice 1 tin ; Vegetables 5 tins ; Milk 5 tins ; Soup 1 tin ; Jam 1 lb. ; Bacon 6½lbs.

FOOD PREMISES

The following table sets out the number and type of food premises in the district, together with the number of inspections made :

Type of Business	Number in District	Number of Inspections made
REGISTERED PREMISES		
Ice Cream retailers	8	14
Dairies	4	16
OTHER FOOD PREMISES		
Bakehouses	1	9
Butchers	4	11
Canteens, factory	1	9
„ school	2	7
Fishmongers	1	4
Greengrocers	3	6
Grocers, Retail	8	22
Hotels and Guest Houses	1	7
Public Houses	8	18
Licensed Clubs	4	4
Mobile Food Premises	3	7
Miscellaneous Premises (sweets, etc.)	7	15

DISINFECTION (1), DISINFESTATION (2)

Number of cases	(1) 1.	(2) 0.	Total 1.
-----------------	--------	--------	----------

Sixty-one complaints were received regarding wasps and sixty-three nests were destroyed or removed.

RODENT CONTROL

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

	Local Authority Depots, etc.	Dwelling Houses	Agri- cultural	All other, incl. Business & Industry	Total
1. Total No. of properties in L.A.s' district	3	2,079	11	113	2,206
2. No. of properties inspected by L.A. as a result	a, —	28	—	5	33
a, of notification, b, otherwise.	b, 3	41	2	16	62
3. No. of properties (under 2) found to be infested by Rats	a, —	—	—	—	—
a, Major b, Minor, infest.	b, —	22	—	5	27
4. No. of properties (under 2) found to be infested by Mice	a, —	—	—	—	—
a, Major b, Minor, infest.	b, —	5	—	—	5
5. No. of infested properties (under 3 & 4) treated by the L.A. ...	—	27	—	5	32
6. No. of notices served under Section 4 for: a, Treatment	a, —	—	—	—	—
b, Structural Works	b, —	—	—	—	—

Number of cases in which default action was taken by L.A. following issue of notice under S. 4; 0.

8. Legal Proceedings, 0.

9. Number of " block control " schemes carried out, 0.

Sewer Control.

A programme of test baiting covering 10% of the manholes in the sewage system was carried out at the beginning of the year, and I am pleased to report that no infestation was revealed.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

By direct labour. Vehicles employed—2, 1 being an 18 cu.yd. dual tip, the other being a 12 cu.yd. side loading type. Six men are employed and every effort is made to maintain a 7-day collection service. Disposal is by means of controlled tipping.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

1.—Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	8	8	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	15	20	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	23	28	—	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecu- tions were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1			
Overcrowding (S.2) ...					
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)					
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)					
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient					
(b) Unsuitable or defective					
(c) Not separate for sexes	1				
Other offences (not including offences relating to Outwork)					
TOTAL ...	2	1	—	—	—

Outworkers S.110 (i) (c) :—Number, 7. Notices, etc., Nil

RICKMANSWORTH

URBAN DISTRICT

General.

Area (land and inland water), 7,639 acres.

Dwellings and Rateable Value.

31st March, 1959

<i>Number of Separate Dwellings</i>	<i>Rateable Value</i>	<i>Product (est.) of Penny Rate</i>
8,518	£542,540	£2,430

Population.

(Registrar General's estimates at mid-year) :

1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1951	1945	1939
27,450	27,250	26,640	26,180	25,820	24,508 <small>census</small>	21,870	19,930

Birth Rate

(Live births per 1,000 of population) : (Comparability Factor 1.03)

1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1951	1945	1939
16.3	14.6	13.3	13.6	12.5	13.6	15.3	18.8

Classification of Births:

					Live Births.		Still Births.	
					M.	F.	M.	F.
Total	...	...	...	...	236	211	4	2
<i>Legitimate</i>	...	...	...	...	228	207	4	2
<i>Illegitimate</i>	...	...	...	...	8	4	—	—

Infantile Mortality Rate.

(Number of deaths under age of 1 year per 1,000 live births) :

1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1951	1945	1939
17.9	15.0	19.7	11.2	21.7	14	27	32

Classification of Infant Deaths :

				Under Age of 4 weeks		Under Age of 1 year	
				M.	F.	M.	F.
Total	...	...	...	4	1	5	3
Legitimate	...	...	...	4	—	5	2
Illegitimate	...	...	..	—	1	—	1

Still Birth Rate

Still births per 1,000 total (live and still) births :

1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1952	1939
13.2	22.1	30.0	13.8	21.3	25.2	44.5

Tuberculosis Notifications.

The cases of Tuberculosis which were notified for the first time during the year are given in the following table according to localization of disease, sex, and age group.

	Respiratory		Meninges, Cent. Nervous System		Other Forms	
	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14 years	—	3	—	—	—	1
15—24 „	1	2	—	—	—	1
25—44 „	3	4	—	—	2	1
45—64 „	6	1	—	—	—	—
65 and over	2	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total (all ages)	12	10	—	—	2	3

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1958

INCIDENCE according to AGE and SEX

AGE GROUPS	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute poliomyelitis				Measles (Exc. Rubella)		Diphtheria	
					Paralytic		Non-paralytic					
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— ...									1	1		
1— ...	1								7	8		
3— ...									12	10		
5— ...	4	1							14	16		
10— ...	1	1			1				—	—		
15— ...									3	2		
25 and over									1	3		
TOTAL ...	6	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	38	40	—	—

AGE GROUPS	Ac. Pneumonia		Dysentery		Smallpox		Meningococcal infection		Acute encephalitis			
									Infective		Post-infectious	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— ...												
5— ...												
15— ...												
45— ...	1											
65 and over												
TOTAL ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

AGE GROUPS	Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Paratyphoid Fevers		Erysipelas		Food Poisoning		Other Notifiable Diseases		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		M	F
0— ...							1		Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	—
5— ...							1		Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—
15— ...					1		1		Cholera ...	—	—
45— ...					1	1			Malaria ...	—	—
65 and over									Plague ...	—	—
									Relapsing Fever	—	—
TOTAL ...	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	—	Typhus Fever...	—	—

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1958

MONTH OF OCCURRENCE

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Scarlet Fever	.	2	2	.	1	1	1	.	1	.	.	.
Whooping Cough												
paralytic	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.
Ac. poliomyelitis ;												
non-paralytic												
Measles	20	14	3	5	17	11	3	1	1	1	1	1
Diphtheria												
Ac. pneumonia	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Dysentery												
Smallpox												
infective												
Ac. encephalitis ;												
post-infectious												
Typhoid Fever												
Paratyphoid fevers												
Erysipelas	.	1	1	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
Meningococcal infn.												
Food poisoning	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	.	.	.
Puerperal pyrexia												
Ophthalmia neonat.												
† Cholera												
Malaria												
Plague												
Relapsing F.												
Typhus F.												

1958

(Deaths per 1,000 of population)

Comparability Factor for Deaths, 1.21

SANITARY CONDITIONS

HOUSING

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses.

<i>a</i> ,	Total number of houses inspected (Public Health or Housing Acts)	137
<i>b</i> ,	Number of inspections made for the purpose	761

2. Action Taken.

Number of :—

<i>a</i> ,	Clearance Areas declared	...	...	...	...	...	—
<i>b</i> ,	Unfit houses included in <i>a</i> , above	...	...	...	...	...	—
<i>c</i> ,	Individual houses demolished	...	...	...	...	...	16
<i>d</i> ,	Individual houses closed	...	...	...	...	...	10
<i>e</i> ,	Parts of buildings closed	...	...	...	...	...	—
<i>f</i> ,	Dwellings rendered fit after :—						
	i, Informal action	...	...	...	...	...	109
	ii, Formal action	...					
					{ Public Health Act, 1936		1
					{ Housing Acts, 1936		18

3. Overcrowding.

Number of :—

<i>a</i> ,	Cases brought forward from previous year	...	...	...	—
<i>b</i> ,	Premises found to be overcrowded during the year	...	...	...	—
<i>c</i> ,	Cases of overcrowding abated	...	...	...	—

4. Certificates of Disrepair.

Number of :—

<i>a</i> ,	Certificates of Disrepair issued	...	...	...	...	...	3
<i>b</i> ,	" " revoked	...	...	...	...	...	—

5. Improvement Grants.

Number of :—

<i>a</i> ,	Applications made	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
<i>b</i> ,	Grants made	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27

6. Number of Houses and Flats Erected During the Year.

<i>a</i> ,	By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
<i>b</i> ,	By other Authorities and Organizations	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
<i>c</i> ,	By private persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	159

Summary of Housing Defects.

Housing defects remedied during the year are recorded below in classified form. Work done in connection with the extermination of rats, mice, etc. is not recorded here, but under that part of the report dealing with the Prevention of Damage by Pests.

1. Site.

a, Drainage of ground unsatisfactory : 1. *b*, Outbuildings, inadequate
or in bad repair : 3. *c*, Approach to back of house unsatisfactory : 3.
d, Fencing defective : 0. *e*, Storage of refuse unsatisfactory : 1.
f, Animals improperly kept : 0.

2. Prevention of Dampness.

a, Roof, chimney ; defective : 27. *b*, Gutters, downpipes ; defective : 24.
c, Walls, doors, windows : defective : 90. *d*, Damp-proof course defective : 20.
e, Sub-floor ventilation defective : 1. *f*, Solid floor defective : 2.
g, Soil against walls above damp-proof course : 2 (see also 1. a).

3. Lighting, Ventilation.

a, Obstruction to light and air : 5. *b*, Window area or opening below standard : 0. *c*, Ventilation otherwise defective : 9. *d*, Artificial lighting defective : 2. (See also 8, *f*).

4. Stability and External Repair not included under Sections 2 and 3 above : 3.

5. Water Supply.

a, Water supply not satisfactory : 3. *b*, Main supply disconnected : —

6. Food Storage, Preparation and Cooking.

a, Storage of food unsatisfactory : 0. *b*, Cooking arrangements unsatisfactory : 1. *c*, Sink unsatisfactory : 3.

7. Washing arrangements : Disposal of Waste Water.

a, Bath defective : 0. *b*, No bath : 0. *c*, Arrangements for water heating unsatisfactory : 0. *d*, Disposal of waste water unsatisfactory : 1.

8. Closet accommodation : Soil Drainage.

a, Pail closet defective : 0. *b*, Water closet defective : 6. *c*, Drainage defective : 36. *d*, Disposal of sewage unsatisfactory : 1. *e*, Approach to outside closet not protected : 5. *f*, Lighting, ventilation ; inadequate : 0.

9. Space Heating.

a, Firegrate, flue ; defective : 1.

10. Repair, Decoration, Cleanliness : internal.

a, Internal structures defective : 67. *b*, Decoration in bad state : 12. *c*, Lack of cleanliness : 0. *d*, Infestation with bugs, etc. : —.

Continued progress has been made in the inspection of houses, and any necessary informal or statutory action has been taken when required.

During the year, 26 houses were demolished or closed, this small number being due to the relatively few houses becoming available for rehousing purposes.

The Council continue to encourage applications for improvement grants and every effort is made to inform owners of properties of the scheme. As previously reported, the grants are made in respect of owner/occupied houses rather than tenanted houses.

Moveable Dwellings, Caravans, Gipsies.

The majority of the moveable dwellings in the District are on single sites, and licensed. There are two sites licensed for fifteen and three dwellings, respectively. The total number of dwellings at the end of the year was fifty.

No special difficulties arose during the year, although, in the West Hyde area there was a continual influx of gypsies, particularly on the Council's Housing Site. Every effort is made to move them on as quickly as possible, but it is expected that this trouble will continue until the site is completed.

INSPECTION OF FOOD

Summary of Condemned Food.

Fresh Meat 679lbs. ; English Chicken 1 ; Tinned Meat 145lbs. ; Tinned Fish 3lbs. ; Tinned Soup 4lbs. ; Fresh Fruit 390lbs. ; Tinned Fruit 63lbs. ; Tinned Vegetables 45lbs. ; Jersey Potatoes 2½cwt. ; Preserves 4lbs. ; Syrup 2lbs. ; Milk 1lb.

Method of Disposal of Condemned Food.

All food was taken to the Council's refuse disposal tip.

Slaughter Houses.

There is one licensed slaughterhouse in the District at 251 Uxbridge Road, Mill End.

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in Part.

			Cattle exc. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	—	—	40	423	322	1
Number inspected	—	—	40	423	322	1

Total weight of meat condemned, 953lbs.

Of this total 410lbs. was in respect of pig carcases and offal condemned at a farm at West Hyde during an outbreak of Swine Fever. The outbreak extended into 1959 and the total weight of pig meat condemned was 1,304lbs.

Milk Supply.

Number of persons registered as Distributors	...	23
Number of premises registered as Dairies	...	1
Number of Dealer's (Pasteuriser's) Licences	...	1
Number of Dealer's Licences to use the special designations :—		
Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised	...	7
Tuberculin Tested	... ..	1
Pasteurised	... ..	11
Sterilised	... ..	9

Number of Dealer's Supplementary Licences* to use the special designations :—

Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised	...	8
Tuberculin Tested	... ..	3
Pasteurised	... ..	9
Sterilised	... ..	5

* for Dealers whose premises are outside the District.

Inspections of Dairies and Milk Shops, 25. Notices, 0.

Sampling.

<i>Pasteurised</i>		<i>Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised</i>		<i>Tuberculin Tested</i>	
<i>Taken</i>	<i>Failures</i>	<i>Taken</i>	<i>Failures</i>	<i>Taken</i>	<i>Failures</i>
21	—	5	—	7	2

The 2 samples of Tuberculin Tested milk found to be unsatisfactory were from the farm, outside the district, reported on previously, where it was subsequently established that this was probably due to inefficient milking on Sundays. This was rectified by the producer/retailer concerned, and further samples were reported to be satisfactory.

Ice Cream.

There are no manufacturers of ice cream in the District, but forty-five premises were registered for its sale. The suppliers are mainly large manufacturers and the 34 samples taken conformed to Grade I Standard.

Food Premises.

The following table sets out the numbers and types of food premises in the District and the numbers of inspections made, the premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955; and the number of notices served and complied with.

Type of Food Premises	Nos.	Registered	Inspections	Notices	
				Served	Complied
Bakehouses	3	—	39	2	1
Bread and Pastry Purveyors	17	—	29	4	3
Butchers	20	20	61	9	8
Confectioners	29	—	63	2	2
Fishmongers	6	—	29	4	3
Fish Fryers	4	3	29	1	1
Greengrocers	19	—	40	5	8
Grocers	44	2	135	9	7
Ice Cream Purveyors ...	45	38	81	1	1
Licensed Premises ...	44	—	78	6	5
Milk Distributors ...	23	—	25	3	3
Restaurants and Cafes	41	—	56	4	6
Canteens, Factory ...	14	—	30	1	1
„ School ...	16	—	59	8	5
	325	63	754	59	54

Additional progress was made enforcing the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, and particulars of the types of contraventions of the regulations dealt with are recorded below.

There were four prosecutions during the year for smoking by food handlers and fines totalling 14 guineas and costs were inflicted.

A person commenced the manufacture of meat pies in quite unsatisfactory premises without prior reference to the Council. It was financially impossible to comply with the Food Hygiene Regulations and the use of the premises for this manufacturing process ceased after representations from the Council.

Type of Contravention	Number remedied							
Food, not protected against contamination	3
„ too close to floor	5
Infestation, flies, wasps	1
„ mice, rats	—
Cleanliness of person :—								
Dirty clothing of food handlers	—
Washhand basin, not provided	5
Nailbrush, „ „	3
Water supply, hot insufficient	6
„ „ cold „ „	3
Towel and/or Soap	3
First Aid equipment unsatisfactory	3
Smoking by food handlers	13
Premises, Food Rooms :—								
Decoration required	6
Structural disrepair	6
Accumulation of refuse	4
Ventilation inadequate	1
Lighting defective	—
Equipment, defective	3
„ dirty	—
Sanitary convenience :—								
Lighting insufficient	1
W.C. defective	2
No Notice requesting users to wash hands	4

THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

As the Council became a Food and Drugs Authority on the 1st April, 1957, this is the first report dealing with a full year's administration of the Act.

Summary of sampling and results :—

Samples were taken of the following :—

(I.....Informal.				F. ....Formal.			A.....No. found to be adulterated).			
				I.	F.	A.				
							I.	F.	A.	
Sausages, pork	...	...	...	3		1	Gelatine	...	...	1
Sausage, roll	...	...	...	1			Chickelette	...	...	1
„ breakfast	...	...	...	1			Beef Suet	...	...	1
„ liver	...	...	...	1			Beef, minced	...	...	1
„ meat, pork	...	...	...	1						
Butter	...	...	...	1			Flour, self raising	...	...	1
Margarine	...	...	...	1			Sage and Onion stuffing	...	...	1
Milk	...	...	...	5	9	1	Vinegar	...	...	1
Milk, evaporated	...	...	...	—	1		Spice, mixed	...	...	1
Cream, double	...	...	...	1						
„ ice	...	...	...	3	1					
Sweets	...	...	...	1			Almonds, ground	...	...	1
Jam	...	...	...	2			Peanut butter	...	...	1
Orange Crush	...	...	...	1						
Orange Juice concentrate	...	...	...	—	2	2				
Marmalade	...	...	...	1						
Treacle Mints	...	...	...	1						
Condants	...	...	...	1						
Chocolate cream	...	...	...	1						
Lemon essence	...	...	...	1			Oil, castor	...	...	1
Sauce, fruit	...	...	...	1			„ camphorated	...	...	1

Total of samples :—

Informal 40. Formal 13.

Found to be Adulterated—Informal 1. Formal 3.

Pork Sausages.

The irregularity found in the sample of pork sausages was the presence of sulphur dioxide, within the prescribed limits, but no declaration having been made by the vendor. This was rectified as a result of informal action.

Milk.

Six samples of milk were taken on one day and one of the samples was reported to be 6% deficient in fat. It later transpired that some of the labels on the bottles had become detached so that it was not possible to ascertain which sample was unsatisfactory. The milks from the producers were re-sampled subsequently and all were found to be satisfactory.

The two samples of orange juice concentrate were taken from the same source as mentioned in the 1957 report. The Public Analyst reported that they were “poor in respect of orange flavour and, therefore, no longer suitable for the preparation of orange drinks.” At the end of the year the concentrate was still lying in barrels in a field at West Hyde.

Water Supply.

The Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company supplies the greater part of the area ; the Colne Valley Water Company supplies a relatively small number of houses in the Eastbury area. Two satisfactory samples from each supply were taken during the year.

Swimming Pools.

The Ebury Road Open Air Bath is owned by the Council. The water supply is by bore and electric pump. Chlorination apparatus is in use, and frequent checks are made by the attendant and by this department.

The Aquadrome, a natural lake, is largely used for swimming during the summer months.

The Ebury Road Open Air Bath and the Mill End Junior School Bath were only open for a short period during the summer, 5 water samples were taken for bacteriological examination and all were reported to be satisfactory. Twenty-one inspections were made.

Licensed Premises.

The following table summarises work in connection with matters not directly related to the Food Hygiene Regulations.

<i>No. of Licensed Premises</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Served</i>	<i>Notices Complied</i>
44	78	6	5

SHOPS ACT, 1950

<i>No. of Shops</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Notices Served</i>	<i>Complied</i>
301	533	16	18

<i>No. of Mobile Shops</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Notices Served</i>	<i>Complied</i>
28	35	3	2

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

DISINFECTION : Number of houses disinfected	6
DISINFESTATION : Number of houses treated (Exc. rats and mice)	...	...	6

Fifty-nine camplaints were received regarding wasps, and action was taken for the destruction of nests. Complaints of squirrels, moles and bats were also dealt with.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS

The work done during the year under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, is recorded in the following section.

	1 Local Authority Depots, etc.	2 Dwelling Houses	3 All other, incl. Business & Industry	4 Total cols. 1, 2, 3	5 Agri- cultural
1. Total No. of properties in L.A.'s district	29	8,538	740	9,307	20
2. No. of properties inspected by L.A. as a result of a, Notific- ation, b, Survey under Act, c, otherwise	a, . b, 29 c, 8	259 43 137	30 25 —	289 97 145	— 13 30
3. No. of properties (under 2) found to be infested by rats (a) Major (b) Minor, infest	a, . b, 10	. 211	. 13	. 234	. .
4. No. of properties (under 2) found to be infested by mice (a) Major (b) Minor, infest	a, . b, 1	. 23	. 9	— 33	. .
5. No. of infested properties (under 3 & 4) treated by the L.A. ...	11	234	22	267	.
6. No. of notices served under Section 4 for: a, Treatment b, Structural Works	a, . b, .	. .	. .	— —	. .

7. Number of cases in which default action was taken by L.A. following issue of notice under S. 4 ; 0. Legal proceedings, 0.

8. Number of “ block control ” schemes carried out, 27.

Rodent Control in Sewers.

The sewers were last test-baited in 1957 with negative results, and exemption was granted until 1959 by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Direct labour scheme. Disposal by controlled tipping. Salvage of paper scheme in operation.

THE KEEPING OF ANIMALS

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

Number of licences to keep Pet Shops	4
Offences against Act	0

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

1.—Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	9	25	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	90	220	4	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	99	245	5	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecu- tions were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	1	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	1	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework)	2	6	—	1	—
TOTAL ...	5	7	—	3	—

Sections 110, 111—Outworkers 33: Notices, etc., Nil.

WATFORD

RURAL DISTRICT

Area (land and inland water). 18,179 acres.

Civil Parishes—Abbots Langley, 5,558.9; Aldenham, 5,842; Sarratt, 4,587.4; Watford Rural, 2,190.7; acres.

Dwellings and Rateable Value.

31st March, 1959.

<i>Number of Separate Dwellings</i>	<i>Rateable Value</i>	<i>Product (est.) of Penny Rate</i>
14,722	£779,651	£3,299

Population.

(Registrar General's estimates at mid-year) :

1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1951	1945	1939
55,490	54,230	52,930	51,100	48,560	<small>census</small> 38,316	20,370	20,280

Birth Rate.

(Live births per 1,000 of population) : Comparability Factor, 0.89

1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1951	1945	1939
15.5	15.6	16.5	14.9	15.6	17.0	17.2	13.9

Classification of Births :

				Live Births		Still Births	
				M.	F.	M.	F.
Total	...	...	...	450	410	5	5
<i>Legitimate</i>	...	...		425	385	4	5
<i>Illegitimate</i>	...	...		25	25	1	—

Infantile Mortality Rate.

(Number of deaths under age of 1 year per 1,000 live births) :

1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1951	1945	1939
20.9	17.7	28.6	11.8	22.4	29	26	56

Classification of Deaths:

				Under Age of 4 weeks		Under Age of 1 year	
				M.	F.	M.	F.
Total	...	...	...	3	7	7	11
Legitimate	...	...	...	2	7	6	11
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	—	1	—

Still Birth Rate.

Still births per 1,000 total (live and still) births :

1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1951	1939
11.5	16.2	13.5	16.8	14.3	20.0	20.8

Tuberculosis Notifications.

The cases of Tuberculosis which were notified for the first time during she year are given in the following table according to localization of disease, tex, and age group.

	Respiratory		Meninges, Cent. Nervous System		Other Forms	
	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5 years	1	1	—	—	1	—
5—14 years	—	1	—	—	—	—
15—24 „	1	1	—	—	—	—
25—44 „	8	8	—	—	1	2
45—64 „	7	2	—	—	1	—
65 and over	1	—	—	—	1	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total (all ages)	18	13	—	—	4	2

THE CAUSES OF DEATH							DEATH-RATE			
1958							(Deaths per 1,000 of population)			
							</			

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1958

INCIDENCE according to AGE and SEX

AGE GROUPS	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute poliomyelitis				Measles (Exc. Rubella)		Diphtheria	
	M	F	M	F	Paralytic		Non-paralytic		M	F	M	F
					M	F	M	F				
0— ...			1						4			
1— ...	2	1	5	4					48	36		
3— ...	3	2	3	6					41	47		
5— ...	7	8	5	9					105	93		
10— ...	2		2	1					2	2		
15— ...		1										
25 and over									2	5		
TOTAL ...	14	12	16	20	—	—	—	—	202	183	—	—

AGE GROUPS	Ac. Pneumonia		Dysentery		Smallpox		Meningococcal infection		Acute encephalitis			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	Infective		Post-infectious	
									M	F	M	F
0— ...			8	5								
5— ...	1	1	15	16								
15— ...	1	2	9	11								
45— ...	1	1										
65 and over	1	1										
TOTAL ...	4	5	32	32	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

AGE GROUPS	Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Paratyphoid Fevers		Erysipelas		Food Poisoning		Other Notifiable Diseases		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		M	F
0— ...							1		Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	—
5— ...							3	2	Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	—	—
15— ...						1	1		Cholera ...	—	—
45— ...						1		1	Malaria ...	—	—
65 and over							1	1	Plague ...	—	—
									Relapsing Fever	—	—
TOTAL ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	4	Typhus Fever...	—	—

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1958

MONTH OF OCCURRENCE

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Scarlet Fever	.	4	5	4	5	1	1	1	.	1	2	2
Whooping Cough	.	.	.	.	2	.	2	1	4	3	17	7
paralytic Ac. poliomyelitis ; non-paralytic												
Measles	16	21	45	50	37	37	16	20	5	.	30	108
Diphtheria												
Ac. pneumonia	3	1	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	1	.	2
Dysentery	21	13	14	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	5	9
Smallpox												
infective Ac. encephalitis ; post-infectious												
Typhoid Fever												
Paratyphoid fevers												
Erysipelas	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.
Meningococcal infn.												
Food poisoning	.	.	3	.	5	1	.	.	.	1	.	.
Puerperal pyrexia												
Ophthalmia neonat.												
† Cholera												
Malaria												
Plague												
Relapsing F.												
Typhus F.												

HOUSING

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses.

<i>a</i> ,	Total number of houses inspected (Public Health or Housing Acts)	282
<i>b</i> ,	Number of inspections made for the purpose	690

2. Action Taken.

Number of :—

<i>a</i> ,	Clearance Areas declared	...	...	...	...	...	0
<i>b</i> ,	Unfit houses included in <i>a</i> , above	...	...	...	...	...	0
<i>c</i> ,	Individual houses demolished	...	...	...	...	...	7
<i>d</i> ,	Individual houses closed	...	...	...	...	...	1
<i>e</i> ,	Parts of buildings closed	...	...	...	...	...	0
<i>f</i> ,	Dwellings rendered fit after :—						
	i, Informal action	...	...	...	...	...	87
	ii, Formal action	...	...	...	...	...	0

3. Overcrowding.

Number of :—

<i>a</i> ,	Cases brought forward from previous years	...	...	...	0
<i>b</i> ,	Premises found to be overcrowded during the year	...	...	...	0
<i>c</i> ,	Cases of overcrowding abated	...	...	...	0

4. Certificates of Disrepair.

Number of :—

a ,	Certificates of Disrepair issued	...	...	...	...	...	7
b ,	" " revoked	...	...	...	...	...	0

5. Improvement Grants.

Number of :—

<i>a</i> ,	Applications made	2
<i>b</i> ,	Grants made	0

6. Number of Houses and Flats Erected During the Year.

<i>a</i> ,	By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	115
<i>b</i> ,	By other Authorities and Organizations				...	...	...	0
<i>c</i> ,	By private persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	249

SUMMARY OF HOUSING DEFECTS.

Housing defects remedied during the year are recorded below in classified form. Work done in connection with the extermination of rats, mice, etc., is not recorded here, but under that part of the report dealing with the Prevention of Damage by Pests.

1. Site.

a, Drainage of ground unsatisfactory : 5. *b*, Outbuildings, inadequate or in bad repair : 4. *c*, Approach to back of house unsatisfactory : 2.
d, Fencing defective : 5. *e*, Storage of refuse unsatisfactory : 50.
f, Animals improperly kept : 3.

2. Prevention of Dampness.

a, Roof, chimney ; defective : 18. *b*, Gutters, downpipes ; defective : 19.
c, Walls, doors, windows ; defective : 21. *d*, Damp-proof course defective : 0.
e, Sub-floor ventilation defective : 0. *f*, Solid floor defective : 3.
g, Soil against walls above damp-proof course : 3.
(See also 1, a).

3. Lighting, Ventilation.

a, Obstruction to light and air : 0. *b*, Window area or opening below standard 2. Ventilation otherwise defective : 4. *d*, Artificial lighting defective : 0. (See also 8, *f*).

4. Stability and External Repair not included under Sections 2 and 3 above : 0.

5. Water Supply.

a, Water supply not satisfactory : 1. *b*, Main supply disconnected : 0.

6. Food Storage, Preparation and Cooking.

a, Storage of food unsatisfactory : 4. *b*, Cooking arrangements unsatisfactory : 0. *c*, Sink unsatisfactory : 2.

7. Washing arrangements : Disposal of Waste Water.

a, Bath defective : 0. *b*, No bath : 0. *c*, Arrangements for water heating unsatisfactory : 0. Disposal of waste water unsatisfactory : 11.

8. Closet accommodation : Soil Drainage.

a, Pail closet defective : 3. *b*, Water closet defective : 17. *c*, Drainage defective : 37. *d*, Disposal of sewage unsatisfactory : 1. *e*, Approach to outside closet not protected : 0. *f*, Lighting, ventilation ; inadequate : 3.

9. Space-Heating.

a, Firegrate, flue ; defective : 1.

10. Repair, Decoration, Cleanliness : internal.

a, Internal structures defective : 19. *b*, Decoration in bad state : 7. *c*, Lack of cleanliness : 1. *d*, Infestation with bugs, etc. : 0.

Caravan Sites.

There are four licensed caravan sites in the Rural District, namely, at Eastbury Road, Oxhey ; Toms Lane, Kings Langley ; Newlands, Bedmond ; and Tibbs Hill, Abbots Langley. The number of caravan dwellings on the four sites total 268.

Periodic visits and inspections of the sites are made by the public health department staff. The sites are generally well maintained, with all conditions attached to the respective licences adhered to.

THE FOOD SUPPLY

Food Condemned.

The following is a summary of the food condemned during year :—

Meat, carcase 92lbs. ; Meat canned 784lbs. ; Vegetables, canned 82lbs. ; Fruit, canned 220lbs. ; Fish, canned 19lbs. ; Milk, canned 25lbs. ; Soup, canned 6lbs. ; Miscellaneous 15lbs.

Food Premises.

Considerable attention was paid during the year to food premises, and visits to advise persons engaged in the handling of food were made to ensure compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

Number of Food Premises Inspected ...	...	...	...	...	...	194
Number of Contraventions ...	...	...	...	...	...	22

Milk Supply.

(a) Designated milks						<i>Retailers</i>
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	19
Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	19
Sterilized	...	...	...	...	...	17
Number of inspections	...	14		Notices	...	0

Ice-Cream.

Number of premises registered :—

(a) for Manufacture	...	0	(b) for Sale	...	60
Number of inspections	...	49	Notices	...	4

During the year 31 samples of ice-cream were taken and submitted for laboratory examination. The results were as follows :—

Grade I, 29.	Grade II, 2.	Grade III, 0.	Grade IV, 0.
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Water Supply.

The water supply of the District is adequate and chlorinated. Two samples of the public water supply were submitted for laboratory examination and a satisfactory report was received in each case.

In addition, one sample was taken from a newly sunk private borehole, the report on which was satisfactory.

Swimming Pool.

During the year, six samples of water were taken and submitted for laboratory examination from a privately owned swimming pool which is open to the public and local school-children. The water in the pool is filtered and automatically chlorinated. Satisfactory reports were received in respect of all but one of the samples.

Slaughtering and Meat Inspection
Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in Part.

	Cattle exc. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep Lambs	Pigs	*Horses
Number killed (if known)	...	—	4	—	8	—
Number inspected	...	—	4	—	8	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis						
Whole carcases condemned	...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	...	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcases condemned	...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	...	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticercosis						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	...	—	—	—	—	—

*For human consumption

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS

The work done during the year under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, is recorded in the following section.

	Local Authority Depots, etc.	Dwelling Houses	Agri- cultural	All other, incl. Business & Industry	Total
1. Total No. of properties in L.A.s' district	14	14,177	187	1,092	15,470
2. No. of properties inspected by L.A. as a result of a, notification, b, otherwise	a, — b, 14	107 482	— 25	1 177	108 698
3. No. of properties (under 2) found to be infested by rats (a) Major (b) Minor, Infest.,	a, b, 5	111	—	—	— 116
4. No. of properties (under 2) found to be infested by Mice a, Major b, Minor, Infest.	a, b, —	18	—	—	— 18
5. No. of infested properties (under 3 & 4) treated by the L.A. ...	5	129	—	—	134
No. of notices served under Section 4 for: a, Treatment b, Structural Work	a, b,				— —

7. Number of cases in which default action was taken by L.A. following issue of notice under S. 4 : 0.
8. Legal Proceedings, 0.
9. Number of “ block control ” schemes carried out, 6.

A rodent operative is employed in the public health department. He is provided with a light van for transport of equipment, poison baits, etc. The Council’s present policy is to provide a free service for domestic dwellings.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

DISINFECTION :	Number of houses disinfected	26
DISINFESTATION :	Number of houses treated (Exc. rats and mice)	... ..	—

SMOKE ABATEMENT

With the coming into operation of the Clean Air Act, 1956, smoke abatement took on an even more important aspect during the year. In addition to advisory visits to boiler installations, progress was made by liaison with other interested bodies.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

(a) REFUSE COLLECTION—The service is carried out by direct labour throughout the District. During the post-war years there has been considerable expansion in this service on account of the extensive housing development in the Council’s area. Eleven vehicles are now employed, namely:—four 18 cu. yd. rear loaders ; three 12 cu. yd. Double Cab ; two 10 cu. yd. Double Cab ; and two 10 cu. yd. Single Cab ; in full use. In addition, three 10 cu. yd. Single Cab act as relief vehicles.

It has been the aim to maintain a weekly collection service, but very real difficulties have been experienced from time to time owing to lack of staff, or absence on account of sickness: it is not usually possible to engage men in a temporary capacity to take the place of those absent.

A Trade Refuse Collection Scheme provides for a charge being made for the removal of trade refuse from shop premises. The scale of fees in force provides for no charge in respect of the first dustbin, 30/- per year for the second bin, 20/- for the third, and 15/- for the fourth and subsequent bins.

(b) REFUSE DISPOSAL—With the expansion of the refuse collection service, there has been a considerable increase in the amount of refuse collected, and additional land has had to be taken over at the two refuse disposal sites at Abbots Langley and Aldenham. Controlled tipping is being carried out at both tips, with the assistance of mechanical equipment.

(c) CESSPOOL EMPTYING—The emptying of cesspools is undertaken by the Council, and the scheme covers the whole of the district. Cesspools are emptied at the request of owners or occupiers without charge, but the Council reserve the right to review this arrangement at any time, and to impose a scale of charges in specific cases, or generally, should they consider it necessary or desirable. An 800 gallon Cesspool Emptying Vehicle, operated by two men, is in use. In addition, it is necessary to employ the services of a contractor who uses modern type emptying vehicles. The improved efficiency of the service was maintained during the year, and as a result, the number of emptyings has increased.

The Council has under consideration the question of extending the sewerage system in certain areas of the District, and applications have been made to the Ministry for consents in respect of these. The disposal of cesspool contents is into sewers in the area.

WORKING STATISTICS (January—December).

Total number of Cesspools emptied	...	...	...	...	561
Total number of emptyings of above Cesspools	...	...	...	...	2,572
Total number of loads removed	...	...	...	...	6,211
Number of gallons removed at 800 gallons per load	...	...	...	...	4,968,800

(d) PAIL CLOSET EMPTYING—This is undertaken by direct labour in the Parishes of Abbots Langley, Aldenham, and Sarratt. Pail closets are emptied weekly, properly equipped vehicles being used.

The maintenance of the Public Conveniences in Watling Street, Radlett, Station Approach, South Oxhey, and in the High Street, Abbots Langley, is carried out by the Public Health Department.

THE KEEPING OF ANIMALS

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

Number of licences to keep Pet Shops	...	...	...	...	2
Number of inspections under the Act	...	...	...	...	6
Contraventions	...	...	...	...	0

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

1.—Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	50	30	3	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	3	—	—
TOTAL ...	53	33	3	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecu- tions were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework)	1	1	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	3	3	—	—	—

Outworkers S.110 (i) (c)—Number, 239 ; Notices, etc., 0.

